and analog color signals C by a D/A converter 98. The analog luminance signal Y and analog color signals C are then converted by an RGB encoder 99 into an RGB signal, which is then output through a video output terminal 16.

CLAIMS (with indication of amended or new):

AMENDED 4. An endoscope apparatus comprising:

a general-purpose video processing circuit having a drive signal generation function for driving a solid-state image pick-up device built into an endoscope and a signal processing function for outputting a standard video signal by processing an output signal from the solid-state image pickup device; and

an endoscopic function adjusting circuit comprising a function modifying circuit, connected to the general-purpose video processing circuit, for modifying at least one of the drive signal processing function and the signal processing function executed by the general-purpose video signal processing circuit in accordance with the endoscope having the solid-state image pickup device therein;

wherein the endoscopic function adjusting circuit comprises a delay amount adjusting circuit for canceling the effect of a signal delay taking place in a signal cable connecting the solid-state image pickup device to the signal processing circuit.

AMENDED 5. An endoscope apparatus comprising:

a general-purpose video processing circuit having a drive signal generation function for driving a solid-state image pick-up device built into an endoscope and a signal processing function for outputting a standard video signal by processing an output signal from the solid-state image pickup device; and

an endoscopic function adjusting circuit comprising a function modifying circuit, connected to the general-purpose video processing circuit, for modifying at least one of the drive signal processing function and the signal processing function executed by the general-purpose

video signal processing circuit in accordance with the endoscope having the solid-state image pickup device therein;

wherein the endoscope is detachably connected to a light source, and the endoscopic function adjusting circuit comprises at least a white balance adjusting circuit for detecting ID information indicative of the wavelength distribution of light emitted by a lamp built into the light source, and automatically setting a white balance state in view of said ID information.

AMENDED 6. An endoscope apparatus comprising:

a general-purpose video processing circuit having a drive signal generation function for driving a solid-state image pick-up device built into an endoscope and a signal processing function for outputting a standard video signal by processing an output signal from the solid-state image pickup device; and

an endoscopic function adjusting circuit comprising a function modifying circuit, connected to the general-purpose video processing circuit, for modifying at least one of the drive signal processing function and the signal processing function executed by the general-purpose video signal processing circuit in accordance with the endoscope having the solid-state image pickup device therein;

wherein the endoscopic function adjusting circuit comprises an adjusting circuit accommodating a variation in the number of pixels, for producing the standard video signal, even when the number of the pixels in the solid-state image pickup device is changed, by storing dummy pixels in a frame memory to compensate for a reduced number of pixels, and by applying a zoom function to produce said standard video signal from said reduced number of pixels.

AMENDED 7. An endoscope apparatus according to Claim 6, wherein the endoscopic function adjusting circuit has the function of outputting a video signal which produces a still image.

AMENDED 8. An endoscope apparatus comprising:

a general-purpose video processing circuit having a drive signal generation function for driving a solid-state image pick-up device built into an endoscope and a signal processing function for outputting a standard video signal by processing an output signal from the solid-state image pickup device; and

an endoscopic function adjusting circuit comprising a function modifying circuit, connected to the general-purpose video processing circuit, for modifying at least one of the drive signal processing function and the signal processing function executed by the general-purpose video signal processing circuit in accordance with the endoscope having the solid-state image pickup device therein;

wherein the endoscopic function adjusting circuit has the motorized function of flexing a bending portion of the insert section, interlocked with pan and tilt display functions which compensate for said motorized bending operation.

AMENDED 9. An endoscope apparatus according to one of Claims 4, 5, 6 and 8, wherein the general-purpose video signal processing circuit and the endoscopic function adjusting circuit are usable with a plurality of insert sections having different respective lengths and correspondingly different internal delay amounts.

AMENDED 10. An endoscope apparatus according to one of Claims 4, 5, 6 and 8, wherein the general-purpose video signal processing circuit and the endoscopic function adjusting circuit are usable with a plurality of solid-state image pickup having different respective numbers of pixels.

NEW 11. An endoscope apparatus according to one of claims 4, 5, 6 and 8, further comprising:

a solid-state image pickup device mounted at the end of an insert section of an endoscope;

a signal processing circuit, arranged in the endoscope, for driving the solid-state image pickup device and for producing a standard video signal in response to an output signal from the solid-state image pickup device;

said general-purpose video signal processing circuit and said endoscopic function adjusting circuit being comprised in said signal processing circuit.

NEW 12. An endoscope apparatus according to one of claims 4, 5, 6 and 8, wherein said endoscopic function adjusting circuit controls a wave-shaping operation for wave-shaping said output signal from said solid-state image pickup device.

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